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Switzerland › Official languages

Romansh

French

German

Italian

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AI Overview

Switzerland has **four official national languages**: German, French, Italian, and Romansh. Multilingualism is a fundamental part of the country's identity, with each language dominating a specific geographic region. Wikipedia +2

The Four National Languages

- **German:** The most widely spoken (about 62% of the population). Locals primarily use **Swiss German** dialects in daily life, while **Swiss Standard German** is used in writing, media, and education. Wikipedia +1
- **French:** Spoken in the western region known as *Romandie* (about 23% of the population). It shares close similarities to Standard French but uses distinct number words (e.g., *nonante* for 90). Wikipedia +4
- **Italian:** Spoken mainly in the southern canton of Ticino and parts of Graubünden (about 8% of the population). Wikipedia
- **Romansh:** A descendant of Latin, this is the least spoken of the four (about 0.5% of the population). It is primarily spoken in the eastern canton of Graubünden. Wikipedia +2

Other Prominent Languages

While not official, **English** is widely understood and heavily used in business, academia, and tourism across Switzerland. Additionally, high immigration rates have introduced other native tongues to the country, such as **Portuguese, Albanian, Serbo-Croatian, and Spanish**. Wikipedia +2

If you're planning a trip to a specific part of Switzerland, tell me **which cities you plan to visit** so I can give you more specific tips on **which language and local dialects will be most useful**.

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